



kakadu[®]

NATIONAL PARK

Holiday planner

KAKADU NATIONAL PARK IS A SPECTACULAR CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

As Nayuhyungki, the creation ancestors, journeyed across the country they created landforms, plants, animals and people. They gave Bininj/Mungguy (Aboriginal people of Kakadu) their languages and taught them how to live, and how to look after country.

Today, Kakadu is managed jointly by Bininj/Mungguy and Parks Australia to protect its outstanding World Heritage cultural and natural values. We invite you to experience the world's oldest living culture, stunning rock art, unique plants and animals, and wetlands of international significance.

PLAN YOUR TRIP THROUGH ABORIGINAL EYES

The Bininj/Mungguy calendar recognises up to six seasons and this may inform what activities are available at times of the year throughout the park. Kakadu seasons:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1) Bangkerreng (storms) | 4) Kurrung (hot and dry) |
| 2) Yekke (cool but humid) | 5) Kunumeleng (pre-monsoon) |
| 3) Wurrkeng (cold weather) | 6) Kudjewk (monsoon) |

The most popular time to visit is from May to September during Yekke, Wurrkeng, and Kurrung seasons. At this time the weather is comfortable, and roads are generally open. Be sure to book tours, car hire and hotel bookings well in advance.

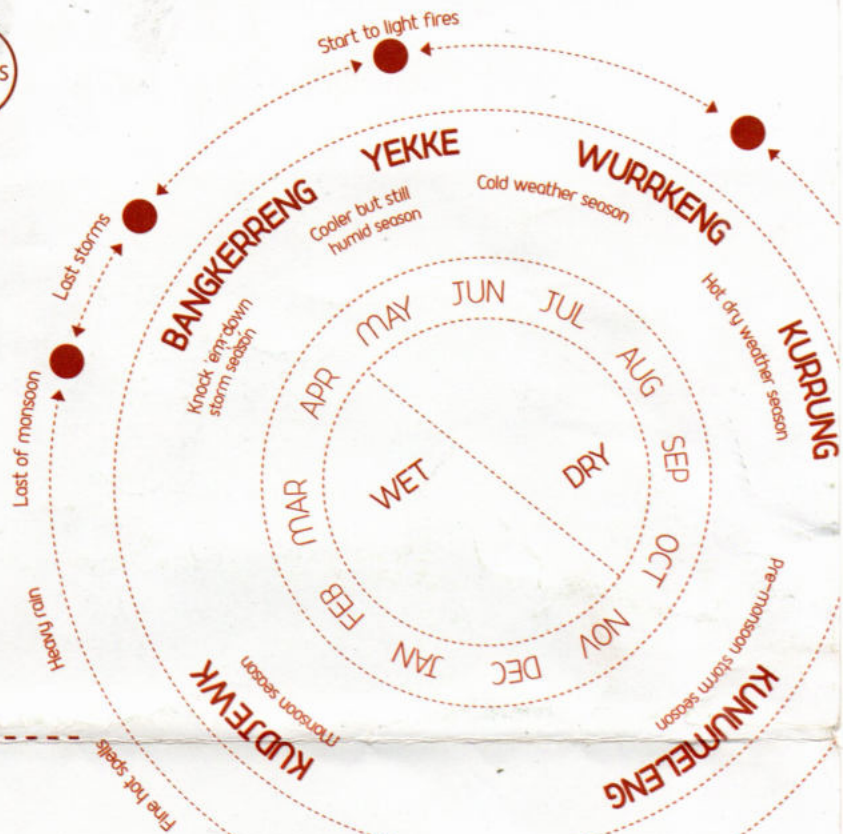
Kakadu is a feast for the senses in the quieter seasons too. From October (Kunumeleng), it becomes hotter and more humid with the arrival of the first rains. Flooding between December and April closes unsealed roads but many locations will remain open.

ACCESS REPORT

We recommend reviewing the daily road access report for latest updates on seasonal road conditions at kakadu.gov.au/access

For more information or to plan your trip visit

kakadu.gov.au



1 Diagram of the six seasons of Kakadu.

2 Kakadu is 20,000 square kilometres of outdoor adventure, Indigenous culture, and dramatic vistas.

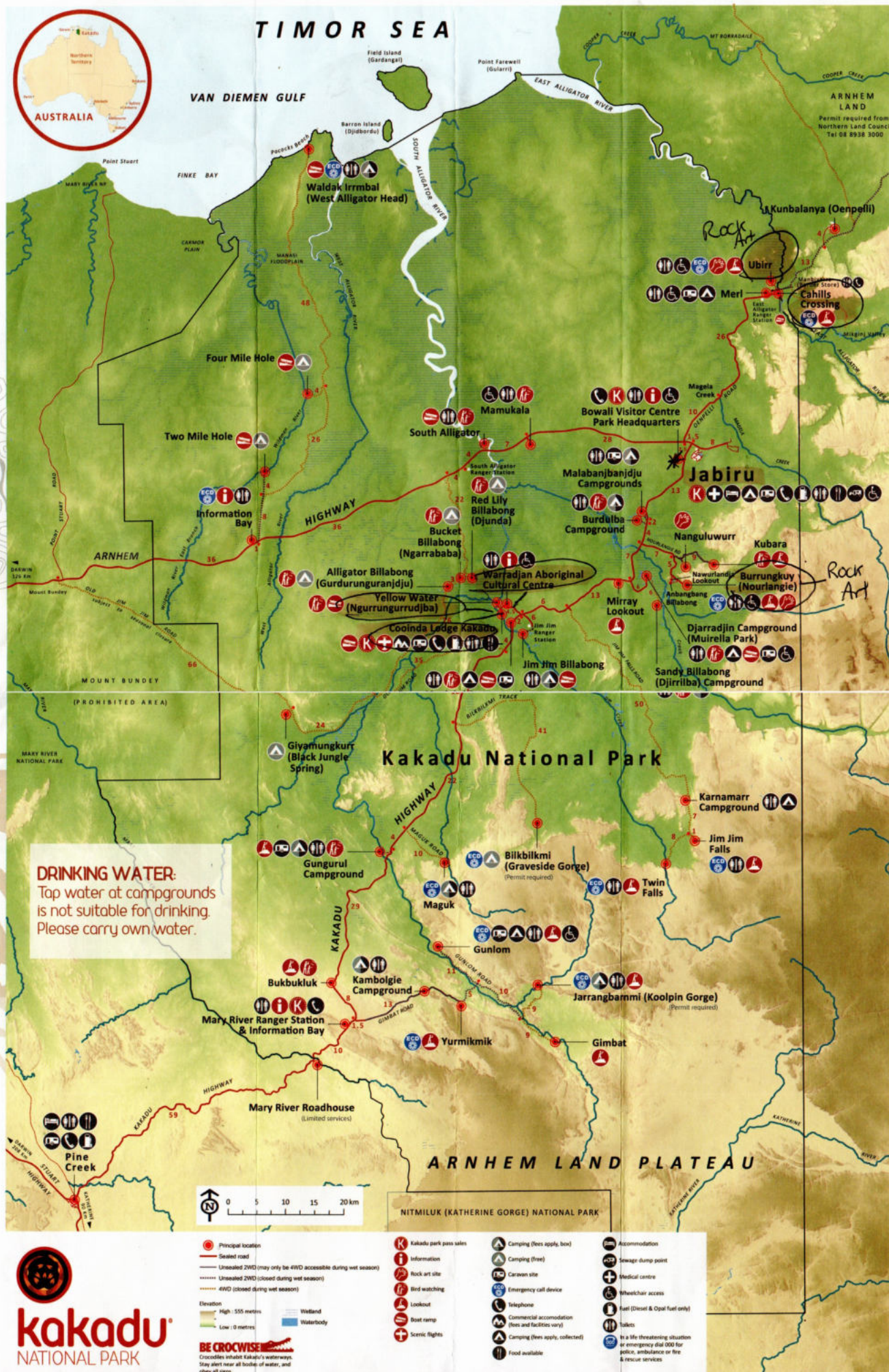
3 Many accessible campgrounds are on offer in Kakadu National Park.



Australian Government
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Kakadu National Park





- 4 Check the park's website for cultural activities on offer.
- 5 The incredibly beautiful Azure Kingfisher is just one of hundreds of species of birdlife found throughout Kakadu. Credit: Luke Paterson, NT Bird Specialists.

TOUR OPERATORS

For information and bookings, including commercial and Aboriginal cultural tours, contact the tour operators at: kakadu.gov.au/do/tours, or contact:

Kakadu Tours and Travel:
P 08 8979 2548

Tourism Top End Darwin:
P 1300 138 886

Katherine Visitor Information Centre:
P 1800 653 142

HOW TO PURCHASE A KAKADU PARK PASS

Visitors are required to purchase a park pass to enter Kakadu National Park. The entry fee includes entry to the park, ranger guided activities, and information. Purchase your park pass online, or from the Bowali Visitor Centre and other locations.

Northern Territory residents with proof of residency do not require a pass. Regular park pass checks take place throughout the park and fines may apply for non-compliance. For more information visit kakadu.gov.au/plan/passes

WATER SAFETY



KAKADU VISITORS ARE URGED TO UNDERSTAND THE FOLLOWING WARNING TO ENJOY A SAFE VISIT.

Kakadu National Park has many spectacular waterways and natural pools however they can be dangerous for swimmers. **Observe ALL safety warning signs;** be aware of your surroundings; remember the location of Emergency Call Devices (ECDs) in case someone needs help; and carry a First Aid kit with you.

Watch for changes in the weather. Some waterways may flash flood causing dangerously strong currents, and many of the waterways are home to crocodiles. Crocodiles hunt by staying submerged and can attack in knee-deep water. Always stay a safe distance from the waters' edge. Be careful when walking near waterfalls or rock pools which can be slippery, and may contain submerged rocks or tree branches that pose risk. Water in rock pools can be extremely cold and may induce shock, especially on hot days. **The safest place to swim in Kakadu is in a public or hotel pool, and never swim alone.**

RANGER GUIDED ACTIVITIES

Connect with country and culture as our park rangers guide you through some of Kakadu's stunning sites. To view the program details, visit parksaustralia.gov.au/kakadu/do/ranger-guided-activities/

PROTECTING THE PARK

Kakadu National Park is a Commonwealth Reserve to which certain rules and regulations apply. It is illegal to bring pets, firearms, chainsaws, nets, or traps into the park. Kakadu National Park is a **no-drone zone** and all drone flights are prohibited. Thank you for following our Leave no Trace principles which includes taking all of your rubbish with you. Please stay on designated walking tracks whilst in the park and do not interfere with rock art.

BE CROCWISE

CROCODILE SAFETY

Estuarine (saltwater) crocodiles inhabit Kakadu waters. Deaths and severe injuries have occurred in the park. Obey all crocodile warning signs, do not take unnecessary risks, and keep away from the water's edge.

LOOK AFTER YOURSELF

Daytime temperatures in Kakadu are hot and we recommend you begin walking activities early in the day. Wear a hat and drink lots of water. Long-sleeved shirts and long loose trousers can protect you against sunburn and insect bites. Apply mosquito repellent around dusk and dawn.

CAMPING

Government legislation has prohibited alcohol in most parts of Kakadu National Park. However, you can drink alcohol if you are in a commercial tour group camp site, or in Jabiru, Cooinda, and selected campgrounds. Takeaway alcohol cannot be purchased in Kakadu. When camping, please camp in designated areas. See the list of approved campgrounds and venues at kakadu.gov.au/stay/camping

	April to May	June to September	October to November	December to March
TEMP.	24–34°C	21–33°C	24–37°C	24–34°C
Humidity	High	Low	High	High
Rainfall	Occasional	Rare	Possible	Frequent
Sealed roads	Check road access report	Open	Open	Check road access report
Unsealed roads	Generally closed	Open	Generally open	Check road access report
Visitor numbers	Medium	High	Low	Low

For more information contact

Bowali Visitor Centre, Kakadu National Park,
GPO Box 858, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia
Tel: 08 8938 1120 • kakadunp@dcceew.gov.au

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WALKS

ART
SITES

Burrungkuy (Nourlangie)

Welcome to Burrungkuy (Nourlangie Rock), known for its World Heritage rock art, colourful birdlife, and easy to access walks and lookouts.

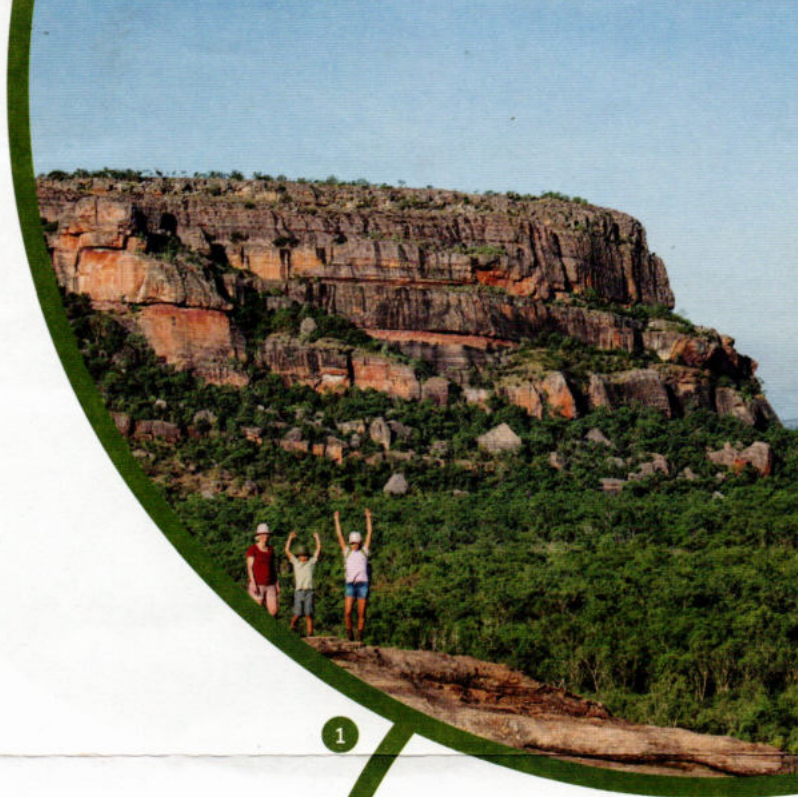
At Burrungkuy (Nourlangie Rock) you can see how local Aboriginal people lived in this area through changing times. Environmental and social changes are reflected in the rock art and in the ground, where archaeologists have uncovered over 20,000 years of Aboriginal occupation. Burrungkuy is the name for the rocky parts, previously known as Nourlangie Rock, while the lower areas are known as Anbangbang.

WALKS

A 1.5 kilometre circuit walk takes you through a wet season home for generations of Aboriginal people. Evidence of long occupation and changing times is to be found in the art sites and a large rock shelter. The lookouts reveal connections between people and landscape. A loop section of this walk is wheelchair accessible. The 12 kilometre Barrk sandstone walk over Burrungkuy presents a challenging walk. Precautions must be taken and the walk must not be attempted by the solo walker. To find out more, please refer to the Barrk Sandstone Walk fact sheet.

REGION WALKS

Nawurlandja lookout offers world-class view across Anbangbang Billabong to Burrungkuy and the Arnhem Land escarpment, all year round. If you are in the area during the dry season, visit Anbangbang Billabong and enjoy the diverse birdlife and stunning views looking back toward Burrungkuy. To find out more, please refer to the Anbangbang factsheet.

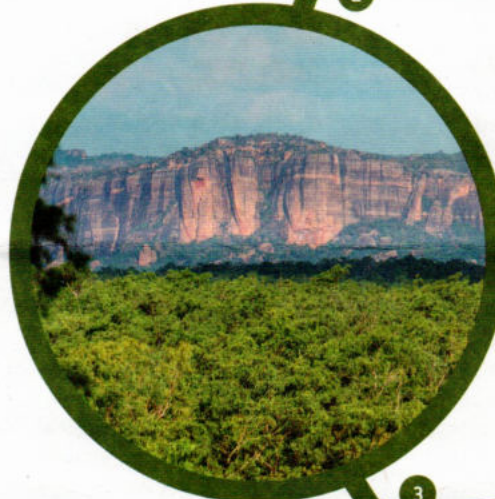


1

1 View from Nawurlandja lookout.

2

2 Namarrkondjahdjam, lightning dreaming, from Kunwarddewardde lookout. From his place on the escarpment, Namarrkon watches for the first wet season storms.



3

3 Namarrkon, the lightning man, at Anbangbang gallery.



For more information or to plan your trip visit

kakadu.gov.au



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4 Burrungkuy Loop Walk

ANBANGBANG GALLERY

The paintings in this gallery and a nearby shelter were painted by Nayombolmi. Also known as Barramundi Charlie, Nayombolmi spent many years working for balanda (non-Aboriginal people). He returned to repaint these in 1964, shortly before he passed away. In 1962, before Nayombolmi's work, British naturalist Sir David Attenborough had photographed this gallery; those photographs show the top paintings were not present, so we know how old they are.

ANBANGBANG SHELTER

Aboriginal people have been coming home to this shelter for the last 6000 years. Occasional use dates further back to 20,000 years, when the climate of the area was drier and food more scarce. Over time objects discarded by people here have built up on the floor of the shelter. Archaeological excavations have revealed organic objects not usually preserved in the hot, wet climate of northern Australia, safe in the dryness of this shelter.

WHEN WALKING

- Carry and drink plenty of water, at least one (1) litre per person per hour.
- Keep to marked tracks.
- Take healthy energy food like fruit and nuts.
- Carry a first aid kit and map.
- Wear sturdy footwear, a hat and loose, light clothing.
- Walk to your fitness ability and rest often, starting no later than 8.00 am to avoid the heat of the day.
- Tell someone where you are going, and your start and finish time.

LEGEND

- Walking track
- Walk: easy
- Walk: moderate
- Walk: difficult
- Parking
- Lookout
- Art site
- Toilets
- Wheelchair access
- Emergency Call Device

CONSERVATION

Rock art is extremely important to the Aboriginal owners of Kakadu. It is also an important historic and scientific record of human occupation of the region.

Rock art can be damaged by many natural processes.

Boardwalks and handrails prevent both people and animals from touching and rubbing the paintings. Boardwalks also prevent dust from being stirred up and coating the paintings.

Pruning, clearing and controlled burning help reduce risks from wildfire and plants rubbing against the rocks. Rangers regularly remove nests and tunnels made by wasps and other insects.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

The thousands of people who visit the art sites each year pose the greatest, although unintentional, threat to the rock art.

To help protect the paintings please:

- Do not touch the paintings or interfere with the silicon drip lines which are installed to divert water away from the painting so they last longer.
- Keep to the walking tracks and behind fences and barriers.
- Do not enter prohibited areas.
- Penalties apply to anyone defacing or damaging an archaeological site or artefact.
- Drones are not permitted at Burrungkuy, or anywhere on park.

For more information contact

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Tel: 08 8938 1120 • kakadunationalpark@awe.gov.au

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WALKS

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Ubirr

Welcome to Ubirr, where kunbim (rock art) depicts traditional foods and tells stories about law and creation.

At Ubirr you can see a range of different art styles and how new paintings are often superimposed over older ones. Stories about behaviour and law are told at the Mabuyu, Namarrkan sisters and Rainbow Serpent paintings. Known at Ubirr by her Gagudju name, Garranga'rreli, the Rainbow Serpent travelled through this area in human form and painted her image on a rock here to remind people of her presence. She also left traces of her passing in the nearby Manngarre rainforest.

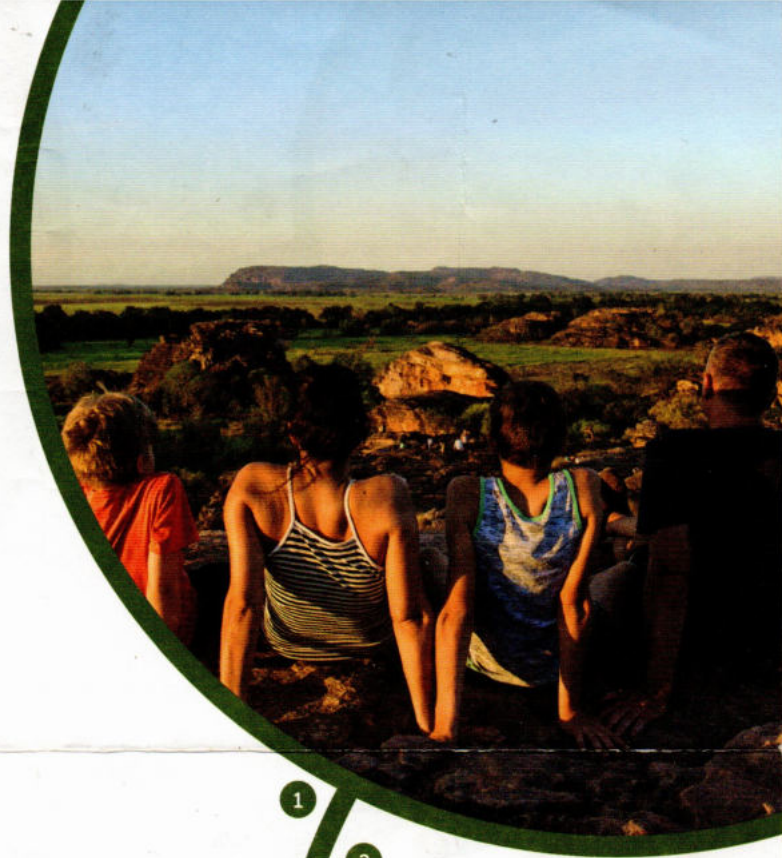
Traditionally, groups of people camped under Ubirr's cool rock shelters and utilise the rich resources of the nearby East Alligator River and Nadab floodplain. Ubirr is now looked after by neighbouring clans, the Bunidj, Manilakarr, and Mandjurlkung people.

MAIN GALLERY

Most of the x-ray paintings in this gallery are from the freshwater period, within the past 1500 years.

X-ray paintings depict the internal features of a subject, developing into an elaborate form where the animal was subdivided for purely decorative purpose. They show the abundant food available in the area surrounding Ubirr including fish, waterfowl, mussels, wallabies, goannas, echidnas, and yams. The main gallery also has interesting examples of contact art which features new subjects appearing with influences of European and Macassan themes.

A 'white fella' shown wearing a shirt, boots and with his hands in his trouser pockets, was probably an early buffalo hunter painted in the 1880s. Close to the main gallery is a painting of a thylacine (Tasmanian tiger), believed to have become extinct on the Australian mainland 2000 to 3000 years ago.



- 1 View from Nadab lookout.
- 2 Freshwater period rock art painting of a fish in the x-ray style.
- 3 Mabuyu, hunting figure.



For more information or to plan your trip visit

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LEGEND

- Walking track
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MORE INFORMATION

- See the Kunbim (Rock art) fact sheet for more information about rock art.
- From May to October, rangers give talks at Ubirr, Burrungkuy (Nourlangie) and other areas.

For more information on ranger guided activities, please contact the Bowali Visitor Centre.

OPENING HOURS

From 1 April to 30 November

Ubirr is open from 8.30 am to sunset.

From 1 December to 31 March

Ubirr is open from 2.00 pm to sunset. However, the road to Ubirr may be closed due to flooding at this time. Please check the Access Report first.

CONSERVATION

Rock art is extremely important to the Aboriginal owners of Kakadu. It is also an important historic and scientific record of human occupation of the region.

Rock art can be damaged by many natural processes.

Boardwalks and handrails prevent both people and animals from touching and rubbing the paintings. Boardwalks also prevent dust from being stirred up and coating the paintings.

Pruning, clearing and controlled burning help reduce risks from wildfire and plants rubbing against the rocks. Rangers regularly remove nests and tunnels made by wasps and other insects.

You go to lookout, see floodplain, bird, sunset. Don't take any alcohol up there with you. Too dangerous on top of rock, might fall over. Water and camera better. No matter you or Aborigine...Same thing, same law. No drinking at Ubirr.

Bill Neidjie Bunitj clan

4 Ubirr is one of Kakadu's must-see sites and has one of the most stunning sunset lookouts in the world.

5 Ubirr site map and walking track.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

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To help protect the paintings please:

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- Do not enter prohibited areas.
- Penalties apply to anyone defacing or damaging an archaeological site or artefact.
- Alcohol is not permitted at Ubirr, or anywhere on park.

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